



INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

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Press Release

Unofficial

No. 2024/31

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Obligations of States in respect of Climate Change

(Request for Advisory Opinion)

Filing of written statements

THE HAGUE, 12 April 2024. In the advisory proceedings on the *Obligations of States in respect of Climate Change*, 91 written statements have been filed in the Registry of the International Court of Justice, the highest number of written statements ever to have been filed in advisory proceedings before the Court.

Within the time-limit for the presentation of written statements, which was extended to 22 March 2024 by the [Order](#) of the President of the Court of 15 December 2023, 88 written statements were filed in the Registry by (in order of receipt): Portugal; the Democratic Republic of the Congo; Colombia; Palau; Tonga; the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries; the International Union for Conservation of Nature; Singapore; Peru; Solomon Islands; Canada; the Cook Islands; Seychelles; Kenya; Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden (jointly); the Melanesian Spearhead Group; the Philippines; Albania; Vanuatu; the Federated States of Micronesia; Saudi Arabia; Sierra Leone; Switzerland; Liechtenstein; Grenada; Saint Lucia; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; Belize; the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; the Kingdom of the Netherlands; the Bahamas; the United Arab Emirates; the Marshall Islands; the Parties to the Nauru Agreement Office; the Pacific Islands Forum; France; New Zealand; Slovenia; Kiribati; the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency; China; Timor-Leste; the Republic of Korea; India; Japan; Samoa; the Alliance of Small Island States; the Islamic Republic of Iran; Latvia; Mexico; South Africa; Ecuador; Cameroon; Spain; Barbados; the African Union; Sri Lanka; the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States; Madagascar; Uruguay; Egypt; Chile; Namibia; Tuvalu; Romania; the United States of America; Bangladesh; the European Union; Kuwait; Argentina; Mauritius; Nauru; the World Health Organization; Costa Rica; Indonesia; Pakistan; the Russian Federation; Antigua and Barbuda; the Commission of Small Island States on Climate Change and International Law; El Salvador; the Plurinational State of Bolivia; Australia; Brazil; Viet Nam; the Dominican Republic; Ghana; Thailand; and Germany.

In addition, the Court decided, on an exceptional basis, to authorize the late filing of the written statements of Nepal, on 27 March 2024; Burkina Faso, on 2 April 2024; and The Gambia, on 2 April 2024.

Pursuant to Article 106 of the Rules of Court, the Court may decide to make the written statements accessible to the public on or after the opening of the oral proceedings in the case (on the [case page](#) on the website of the Court).

Procedure of the Court and history of the proceedings

The Registry has published an [explanatory note](#) on the Court's website concerning the procedure followed by the ICJ with regard to requests for advisory opinions.

Earlier [press releases](#) relating to these proceedings are also available on the website.

Note: The Court's press releases are prepared by its Registry for information purposes only and do not constitute official documents.

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. It was established by the United Nations Charter in June 1945 and began its activities in April 1946. The Court is composed of 15 judges elected for a nine-year term by the General Assembly and the Security Council of the United Nations. The seat of the Court is at the Peace Palace in The Hague (Netherlands). The Court has a twofold role: first, to settle, in accordance with international law, legal disputes submitted to it by States; and, second, to give advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by duly authorized United Nations organs and agencies of the system.

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